

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A fuel cell includes an anode electrode, a cathode electrode, and a third  
electrode interposed between the anode and the cathode electrodes. The third  
electrode preferably includes an electrically conductive component. The third  
electrode preferably includes a metallic and a polymer grid and/or a conducting  
polymer. The third electrode may be used to control processes of the anode and/or the  
10 cathode electrodes. The third electrode may also be used to monitor the health of any  
component of the fuel cell.

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